Time to Acknowledge Award-Worthy Volunteers, Exhibits, and More!

It’s that time again when you have the opportunity to thank those individuals or groups who have helped advance your mission this year. The call for Georgia Association of Museums Annual Awards nominations is open. Awards will be presented at the 2021 GAM Annual Meeting.

Award Categories

Creativity During Crisis
Recognizes creative ways individuals and departments at institutions have had to adapt during the COVID-19 pandemic. This could be products, services, or activities that were implemented or produced in response to this worldwide crisis.

Patron
Recognizes an individual or group who has worked closely with a museum (or museums) demonstrating leadership and providing assistance. This person/group is a major promoter of the museum(s) in his/her/their community or state and the past year has made a significant contribution and will continue to be a supporter in the future.

Business/Corporation
Recognizes local and statewide corporate supporters that have contributed significantly to the development of museums and galleries. This company has provided funding or donations of materials and goods, has taken a leadership role in promoting museums and galleries in Georgia, and has encouraged other businesses to participate.

Advocacy Award
Recognizes an individual or group that has successfully advocated at the state and/or federal level representing Georgia’s museum community to provide heightened interest and voice, in a significant and meaningful way, while working to incorporate museum interests into state and federal policy.

Institution
Recognizes GAM institutional members (nonprofit museums, historic sites, and galleries) for leadership at the local and statewide level. This organization has been a leading institution in Georgia with a past record of accomplishment and acts as an important cultural resource in its community; has taken a leadership role in the presentation of a traditional exhibit or program that in the last year has made a significant contribution and will continue to be a leader in the sector.

Education
Recognizes an on-site or outreach program that has as its primary purpose the education of students and/or adult audiences. This program extends the organization’s mission and demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state.

Museum Exhibition
Recognizes an exhibition, historic, or science exhibition of note that demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state. The exhibition is an example of excellent scholarship, planning, and implementation and has effectively reached and broadened the audience of the museum or gallery audience. Exhibits that include multimedia elements but are primarily designed to be experienced in person (virtual programs, Communicating, and cooperation) may be considered in this category. Category #1 - Exhibition under $1,000; Category #2 - Exhibition $1,001 - $25,000; Category #3 - Exhibition $25,001 to $100,000; Category #4 - Exhibition Over $100,000.

Multimedia
Recognizes projects that are intended to be primarily experienced using visual or audio media. Examples include podcasts, interactive kiosks, social media campaigns, video, and virtual interactions (webinars, virtual field trips, etc.). Multimedia projects have extended the organization’s audience and demonstrate creative solutions without sacrificing good scholarship and professional best practices.

Special Projects
Recognizes a project or program of note, often with multiple component parts, that does not more closely fit the criteria for other categories such as education, exhibition, or multimedia. This category may also be used for multi-part projects when all aspects of the project should be evaluated as a whole. These projects demonstrate scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state and provide examples of excellence in planning and implementation while expanding the audience of the museum or gallery. Projects under $1,000 qualify. Category #2 - Exhibition under $1,000; Category #3 - Exhibition $1,001 - $25,000; Category #4 - Exhibition $25,001 to $100,000; Category #4 - Exhibition Over $100,000.

Student Project
Recognizes contributions of student work to the field of museums and galleries. An individual or student group is eligible to apply. These projects should demonstrate evidence of sound scholarship, student effort, but clearly demonstrate meaningful work by students in the design, implementation, and promotion of the nominating project. Projects might include initiatives not limited to, an education or outreach program, a digital history project, an oral history project, or an exhibition.

Museum Volunteer
Recognizes an individual who does not receive payment or specific educational credit from an organization but has contributed significant time and effort in developing that organization’s programs and exhibitions in an outstanding way. This person has enlisted the aid of other volunteers in supporting Georgia museums and galleries and has served as an advocate of Georgia museums and galleries.

Museum Professional
Recognizes an active museum or gallery employee working in the state of Georgia. This individual is involved professionally on the local, state, and national level and has demonstrated leadership in the profession; has worked to promote the goals of GAM; and has been a member of GAM for at least one year.

Lifetime Achievement Award
An individual in any category who has consistently and selflessly worked over multiple decades to improve the state of museums and galleries in their community during their lifetime; this person has demonstrated a lifetime commitment, dedication and excellence; has had a far-reaching impact in their field.

Guidelines

Award nominations should include the Award Cover Sheet as well as nomination narrative and supporting materials as separate documents (see detailed guidelines at www.gambg.org).

Nominations must be received no later than Tuesday, December 1, 2020.

Nominations that do not meet guidelines will not be considered.

Note: Nominating individuals or organizations are responsible for making reservations and paying for the winning nominees’ travel and accommodation in the award presentation.

Email submissions are preferred. Mailed submissions must include four copies. Submissions should be emailed to the GAM Awards Committee c/o Michele Rodger at gamgiligam.org or by mailing to:

GAM Awards Committee
C/o Michele Rodger
PO Box 213
Marietta, GA 30061

For questions, call Michele Rodgers at 770-853-7539.